

**TOWN OF NORTHFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Minutes of July 23, 2007**

- I. **ROLL CALL:** Chair Melvin Adams, Selectmen Roger LeClair, Kenneth Johnson, Charles Morse, and Gregory Sanders. Also present were Manager Nanci Allard, Clerk Samantha Baraw, Police Chief Jeff Shaw, Linda Barrows, Dolores Barrows, Sally Davidson (Recreation Board Chair), Sharon Bartram, Warren Hagy, and Joan Davidson.

Chair Adams called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a. **July 9, 2007 (Regular Meeting).** Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman Sanders, to approve the minutes. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**

III. **APPROVAL OF BILLS**

- a. **Warrant #03-08.** Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman LeClair, to approve Warrant #03-08 in the amount of \$34,004.69. **Motion passed 4-0-1, with Selectman Johnson abstaining.**

IV. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

- a. **Presentation to Town Librarian Sharon Bartram on her Retirement from the Brown Public Library.** Ms. Bartram has just retired after twenty (20) as Director of the Brown Public Library. In appreciation for her many years of service to the Northfield community, Chair Adams presented her with several gasoline gift cards.
- b. **Linda Barrows: Request for Temporary Stop Sign at Corner of Barrows Road and Kingston Road.** The reason for Ms. Barrows' request is that there is logging being done by Norwich University and the log trucks do not stop at this intersection. Ms. Barrows stated there now are additional safety issues since the recent storms. Chief Shaw stated that in order to have a new stop sign, a traffic study will need to be done. Chair Adams stated there is a handbook that he will obtain and review to see what can be done on this request. In the meantime, Chair Adams would like a coordinated discussion with the loggers. Ms. Barrows stated that Kingston Road also has been upgraded from a Class 4 Road to a Class 3 Road. The Board did not recall a request and will look into that. Manager Allard and/or Highway Superintendent William Lyon will look into these situations.
- c. **Police Chief Jeffrey Shaw: TASER Guns.** There has been much discussion on the purchase of TASER guns. Chief Shaw stated that the guns have been returned. Selectman Morse stated that he received the package done by Chief Shaw. He stated that there was a miscommunication amongst the Board and commended Chief Shaw for returning the items. There was a misunderstanding before the TASERs were purchased. Selectman Johnson thanked Chief Shaw for taking the interests and concerns of the community to heart and returning the units. Joan Davidson stated that she would like to be reassured that the community will have input before this issue is raised again. She opposed any purchase of TASER guns for Northfield.
- d. **Recreation Board Chair Sally Davidson.** Ms. Davidson approached the Board for a sense of direction. The Recreation Board would like to be proactive, not reactive. They have invited Manager Allard to their meetings and have not received any direction from her either. Ms. Davidson is requesting information from the Selectboard on what is the purpose of the Recreation Board. The Recreation Board requested information regarding purchasing and was informed there was no budget now. They purchased a hotdog machine to earn revenue to be able to purchase items such as basketball nets, etc. There are no GFI outlets and therefore they cannot use the machine. Chair Adams would like to have a discussion with Ms. Davidson and Selectman Johnson to try and come up with a purpose. They will attend the next Recreation Board meeting, which will be held Monday, July 30, 2007 at 6:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building.

V. MANAGER'S REPORT

a. Status Reports: Various Projects

1. **Bear Farm Road.** The Site Visit and Public Hearing will be held prior to the next regular Selectboard meeting (08/13/07). All abutting landowners have been notified by certified mail.
2. **Northfield Falls Cemetery Association.** The paperwork regarding dissolution has been forwarded to the State but is still pending.
3. **Proposed Police Station.** Proposals were received last week and the Municipal Facilities Committee will be meeting Wednesday night (07/25/07) to review them. At this point, we're looking at getting bids out in January. We need to get a plan in place and then public meetings will be held. We need to have an architectural drawing done up. There was discussion on the purchasing policy – does the Board have the authority to "ignore" its own purchasing policy (anything over \$5000 needs bids). Chairman Adams responded that the Board would need to amend its policy for use of the Qualification Based Selection process to design the proposed facility. Sally Davidson wanted to know if there would be options presented to the public, such as (1) renovating the current police facility; (2) purchasing and renovating the DeLary House on Vine Street; or (3) building a new facility next to the Fire Station. She was told that this will not happen.
4. **Norwich University Siren System.** This new siren system is in case of emergency, such as the recent tragedy at Virginia Tech. Norwich University has coordinated with the Northfield Police Department to ensure that the new system is different from theirs. The public will be warned before any tests of the system.

VI. SELECTBOARD

- a. Executive Summary: Korrow Driveway Permit:** Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman LeClair, to approve the permit. The item was tabled until next meeting to provide an opportunity for the Board to further review the request.

b. Status Reports: Various Projects:

1. **Inter-Local Agreement Committee.** Selectman Morse: stated that the Committee was scheduled to meet last week but there was not a quorum as only the two (2) Village Trustees were present. He reported that there are no significant changes in water rates. They are doing the Water Project and the next phase will be going out to Northfield Falls. He commended the Village for doing this project as an investment in the Town.

VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Non-agenda items:

- a. Jim Baraw: New Safety Program.** Mr. Baraw stated that the Northfield Ambulance Service is doing a new public safety program with sponsorship from the Red Kettle and Rocket J's. There are tickets that are given to kids wearing bicycle helmets and to kids wearing helmets, knee pads, and elbow pads at the skateboard park. The tickets are for free hotdogs or ice cream at the sponsors' restaurants. Encourage your kids to wear helmets and other safety gear!

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Selectman LeClair, seconded by Selectman Johnson, to adjourn the meeting. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**

The Board adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Samantha H. Baraw

Samantha H. Baraw, Clerk

These minutes are subject to approval at the next regular meeting.